

**Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services**  
**Alzheimer's Assisted Living Waiver**  
**Fact Sheet 2015**

<b>Initiative</b>	Home and community-based (1915 (c)) waiver whose purpose is to provide services and supports in an assisted living facility in the community rather than in a nursing facility (NF).
<b>Targeted Population</b>	Individuals that have Alzheimer's disease or dementia, meet the criteria, and reside in an assisted living facility (ALF) special care unit and are receiving an Auxiliary Grant.
<b>Effective Date</b>	August 1, 2006
<b>Eligibility Rules</b>	An individual must be eligible for Medicaid: meet the nursing facility level of care screening criteria; reside in an ALF; be receiving an Auxiliary Grant; have a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease; have no prohibited conditions
<b>Covered Services</b>	<p>Services include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance with ADLs;</li> <li>• Medication administration by registered or licensed professionals;</li> <li>• Licensed healthcare professional services for assessments, evaluations, and coordination of services; and</li> </ul> <p>Therapeutic, social, and recreational programming that provides daily activities for individuals with dementia</p>
<b>Excluded Services</b>	Skilled services requiring ongoing medical or invasive therapies.
<b>Pre-Admission Screening</b>	Initial admissions for services in an ALF must be assessed and authorized by a preadmission screening team.
<b>Service Authorization</b>	Services under the AAL waiver require service authorization through the DMAS contractor.
<b>Program Administration Criteria</b>	<p>Waiver service is administered by DMAS. The Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) is responsible for the licensure of the facility.</p> <p>Individuals must meet the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meet NF level of care; and</li> <li>• Be receiving an Auxiliary Grant; and</li> <li>• Reside in an approved ALF that is licensed by VDSS as a "safe and secure" environment;</li> <li>• Have a diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease or related dementia and no diagnosis of serious mental illness or intellectual disability or a prohibited condition; or</li> <li>• Be an individual with a serious cognitive impairment, who resides in a safe, secure environment as defined in 22 VAC 40-72-10.</li> </ul>
<b>Service Provision</b>	ALFs employ staff to develop and provide daily supportive services for ADL assistance, medication distribution, recreation activities, meal preparation, laundry, transportation, and coordination of medical services. These services occur in a residential setting.

**Definitions**

Source: 12VAC30-120-1600

“Alzheimer’s” means a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s as defined by the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition or Fifth Edition (DSM-5) published by the American Psychiatric Association.

“**Alzheimer’s and Related Dementias Assisted Living Waiver**” or “AAL Waiver” means the CMS-approved waiver that covers a range of community support services offered to individuals who have a diagnosis of Alzheimer’s or related dementia who meet nursing facility level of care.

“**Assisted living facility**” means a congregate residential setting as defined in § 63.2-100 of the *Code of Virginia*.

“**Auxiliary Grant Program**” means a state and locally funded assistance program to supplement the income of a Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipient or an adult who would be eligible for SSI except for excess income who resides in a licensed assisted living facility with an approved rate.

“**Comprehensive assessment**” means the Virginia Uniform Assessment Instrument and relevant social, psychological and medical information gathered by the assisted living facility staff for use in the development and updates of the plan of care.

“**Serious cognitive impairment**” means a condition in which an individual cannot recognize danger or protect his own safety, as defined in 22 VAC 40-72-10, and who is also residing in a safe, secure environment as defined in 22 VAC 40-72-10.

“**Plan of care**” means the written plan developed by the provider related solely to the specific services required by the individual to ensure optimal health and safety while remaining in the assisted living facility.

**Quality Management Review**

DMAS shall conduct quality management reviews of the services provided and interview individuals of providers delivering the services to ensure health and safety. Level of care reviews shall be performed at least annually.

**Number of Individuals Served (SFY 2015)**

73\*

**Total Waiver Expenditures (SFY 2015)**

\$836,332\*

**Average Cost Per Recipient (SFY 2015)**

\$11,457\*

**Reimbursement Method**

The Commonwealth through DMAS reimburses the ALF a per diem vendor payment of \$49.50/day for Alzheimer’s Assisted Living Waiver services.

**Regulatory Basis** 12VAC30-120-1600 et seq.

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*\*Cost-effectiveness Summary of Virginia's 1915(c) Home- & Community-Based Waivers SFY 2015 – Initial Lag Reports*